

# the ROADRUNNER

Nebraska ♦ Department ♦ of ♦ Roads

December 2009/January 2010



# the Roadrunner

Published every two months by the  
**Nebraska Department of Roads**

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## Governor Dave Heineman

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The information in this newsletter is contributed  
by employees, retirees and friends of NDOR.



## From the Director

# Happy Holidays to Everyone



**Monty Fredrickson**

It's going to be six months for me as the Director of your Nebraska Department of Roads. With 40 years of apprenticeship, I was still tentative about being ready for this job. I am always learning something and each new day lays out for me a whole new chapter.

One thing I am very confident about is knowing that the employees of the Department of Roads have great integrity, and are dedicated to their work and to this agency's mission. At this time of year, we pause to give thanks for the people in our lives, for the food on our

table and for those who risk their lives for our freedom.

I cannot tell you what the future will bring any of us. I will tell you that whatever lies ahead, challenges, changes, losses, or proud moments and joyous occasions, look forward with positive vision and carry on! We are all in this together and together we will work through our processes and our projects, and we'll share our successes—super or small.

On behalf of myself and the two Deputy Directors, Jake and Randy, we wish you and your loved ones very safe and truly Happy Holidays! ♦

## ITS Strategies Shared at Traffic Forum

The third annual Omaha-Council Bluffs Traffic Forum was held on October 16 at the Scott Conference Center in Omaha. The forum offered an opportunity to share traffic incident management practices with other states and jurisdictions.

The event was a joint effort of NDOR, Iowa DOT and the Metropolitan Area Planning Agency (MAPA). More than 130 officials from a variety of agencies in Nebraska and Iowa attended.

The traffic forum was kicked off by Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle and Nebraska State Patrol Colonel Bryan Tuma. State Senator Gwen Howard of Omaha discussed Nebraska's new "Move Over/Slow Down" law. Other presentations addressed working with volunteer fire departments, freeway patrols' legal issues, Wisconsin's Traffic Incident Management Enhancement (TIME) program, and the Missouri DOT's Gateway Guide traffic incident

management program in St. Louis.

One of the strategies used nationally to improve incident response is the use of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) technology such as closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras to identify incidents and get the appropriate assets to the incident scene quickly, thereby improving response and recovery operations. Other ITS applications include the use of freeway message boards to alert motorists of adverse conditions ahead and the 511 travel information service.

Both NDOR and the Iowa DOT are engaged in deploying ITS technology on metro area freeways, including I-29 and I-80. They are working closely with local officials to enhance traffic incident management practices in the metro area.

The 2010 Omaha-Council Bluffs Traffic Forum is scheduled to be held on October 15, 2010 at the Scott Conference Center. ♦

# Hinrichs Named New District 8 Operations & Maintenance Manager

Corvin Hinrichs is the new District 8 Operations and Maintenance Manager for the Nebraska Department of Roads. District 8 includes Boyd, Brown, Cherry, Garfield, Holt, Keya Paha, Loup, Rock and Wheeler counties. Hinrichs replaces John Stahl, who will retire in December after 46 years of service, 18 years as the District's Operations and Maintenance Manager.



**Corvin Hinrichs**

and I stayed with it, with a goal of being a loyal, hard worker. I am proof that with years of dedicated work, it is possible to move up the ladder."

Hinrichs said he has enjoyed working with the friendly and helpful NDOR employees. Over the

years, he has served on many different work teams, including: Fleet Asset Study Team (FAST), Enterprise Asset Management System (EAMS), Distributor Safety, Maintenance Manual, Building Committee, District Safety, and District Rewards & Recognition Team.

In considering the goals he would like to achieve in his new position, Hinrichs said he looks forward to doing the best he can with the resources available, keeping the roads safe, and maintaining a safe and positive work environment.

Hinrichs has a 29-year-old daughter, Andrea, who lives in Washington

State. He spends his spare time riding his Harley Davidson motorcycle, traveling and camping in many different states. He also enjoys customizing and resurrecting old vehicles.

## **John Stahl Retires**

John Stahl started working at NDOR on April 14, 1963 as an Engineering Associate I in Bassett. During the 1960s, he was promoted to EA II, III and IV. In 1971, his position was reclassified to Engineering Aid and he received several promotions throughout the 1970s. During the 1960s and 1970s, he worked in Bassett and Ainsworth. In 1983, Stahl was promoted to Highway Maintenance Superintendent and in April 1989 he accepted the HMS position at District 8 in Ainsworth. In April 1991, he was promoted to District Maintenance Superintendent. That job title changed to District Operations & Maintenance Manager in May 2005. On December 31, 2009, Stahl will retire after working 46 years at the Roads Department. ♦

## New Road Signs Aid Quick Clearance Efforts

In an effort to safely expedite the investigation of minor crashes on major Interstates in metro Omaha, the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP) in conjunction with the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR), will oversee the installation and implementation of new quick clearance road signs.

Quick clearance is the practice of rapidly and safely removing temporary obstructions from the roadway. The signs, which have been placed along Interstate 80, 680 and 480 corridors, will inform

motorists to "Move All Accidents to the Shoulder."

"We've all been slowed by the fender-bender in the middle of the road," said Captain Bret Friesz, Commander Troop A-Omaha. "By moving the involved vehicles to the side of the road, we hope to prevent the likelihood of a secondary crash."

In addition to reducing the probability of a second crash, quick clearance practices are also designed to increase the safety of incident responders and victims

by minimizing their exposure to adjacent passing traffic.

Tim Weander, NDOR District 2 Engineer, said, "It's a given that some traffic congestion will occur whenever there is a roadway accident. By clearing crashes quickly we hope to reduce the time and length of any potential traffic backup."

The signs are intended for the removal of vehicles in non-injury, low damage crashes. NDOR expected to have 40 of the new quick clearance signs in place by the end of November. ♦



# Nebraska One of Three States Honored for Leadership to Improve Highway Safety

**The 2009 American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials' (AASHTO) Safety Leadership Award was presented to the states of Colorado, Nebraska and Nevada at the AASHTO Annual Meeting in California, October 25, 2009.**

The three states selected for the award have varied programs and approaches, but each of them demonstrates strong leadership, support of behavioral approaches to improving highway safety through flexing Highway Safety Improvement Program funds, and success in reducing highway fatalities and serious injuries.

Highlights of Nebraska's programs are:

- Nebraska has sustained its trend in lowering fatalities, from 2005-2008, in part through significant investment in safety projects, including high risk rural road safety improvements. Also, nearly all counties (84 of 93) have participated in a statewide horizontal curve signing initiative.
- In October 2004, the Governor of Nebraska requested the directors from the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR), the Nebraska Department of Motor Vehicles, the Nebraska Health & Human Services, and the superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol develop and implement the state's first comprehensive highway safety plan. Each of these individuals was a safety champion in their own right

leading aggressive efforts toward reducing highway fatalities and injuries on Nebraska highways. The four agencies joined forces with the Nebraska Association of County Officials and the League of Nebraska Municipalities to form the Nebraska Interagency Safety Committee (IASC).

Working with advisors from the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Motor Carriers Safety Administration and National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the IASC implemented the state's first Comprehensive Highway Safety Plan in 2006 followed by the current 2007-2011 Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP).

- Nebraska was one of the first states to hold a Highway Safety Summit using a format of speakers combined with facilitated breakout sessions to address highway safety concerns. In addition to summits held in 2001, 2003 and 2005, the IASC used the successful summit format for a Critical Strategies Workshop in 2006 to identify strategies for the top five Critical Emphasis Areas (CEA) in the 2007-2011 Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Representatives from the 4 E's—engineering, enforcement, education and emergency areas—worked in facilitated breakout sessions to identify and prioritize strategies for each CEA with the greatest potential to address statewide highway safety concerns and reduce the number of highway fatalities and injuries. Safety

advocates across the state embraced the SHSP and implemented or expanded projects and activities addressing the five CEAs.

- The NDOR has taken a unique approach in implementing a "High Risk Rural Roads Program" (HRRRP) by partnering with the Nebraska Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP), the Nebraska Highway Superintendents Association (NHSA) – an affiliate of the Nebraska Association of County Officials, as well as the Federal Highway Administration, Nebraska Division. Representatives meet monthly to review crash data, develop safety projects and review project proposals from counties. Face-to-face communication has helped members understand the challenges and frustrations from each entity's perspective in addressing mutual safety concerns.

"The Nebraska Department of Roads, along with our partner agencies in highway safety, emergency responders and motorist education advocates continue to work hard to make safety of our employees, contractors and the traveling public a top priority for all Nebraskans," said Monty Fredrickson, Director – State Engineer of NDOR.

For more information about Nebraska's Strategic Highway Safety Plan go to [www.dor.state.ne.us/highway-safety/docs/strat-hwy-sfty-plan.pdf](http://www.dor.state.ne.us/highway-safety/docs/strat-hwy-sfty-plan.pdf). ♦

**Education • Enforcement • Engineering • EMS**

# Nebraska Highway Incidents, Responder Safety and the NDOR

By Jim McGee  
Operations Division

Nebraska's fire and emergency service agencies and the Nebraska Department of Roads have a lot in common.

All of us respond to emergencies every day of the week, and there are dozens of NDOR district staff among Nebraska's volunteer and rescue services. In 2009, NDOR supported Nebraska's "Move Over" legislation in recognition of the dangerous working environment that all responders encounter in their service on Nebraska's roadways.

Highway traffic incidents on Nebraska's 10,000-mile state highway system and 459-mile I-80 corridor frequently bring NDOR district staff and Nebraska's fire and emergency service responders together at the incident scene. These incidents are recurring or non-recurring events that cause a reduction in highway capacity. Recurring events include major traffic generators such as community festivals, athletic events

and concerts. Non-recurring events include highway crashes, adverse weather and other disruptive, unpredictable incidents.

"Incident management" is the term for the response, management and clearance of traffic incidents. Some goals of effective incident management include ensuring the safety of responders by limiting their time at the scene; following proper emergency vehicle lighting and parking practices; reducing the risk of secondary crashes; reducing the duration of incidents without compromising effective investigations by law enforcement; managing traffic around incidents to reduce delay and amount of traffic flowing by the scene; and minimizing the delay costs and impacts.



*district officials when it becomes apparent that traffic control assistance will be needed. The sooner traffic control can be implemented, the less probability there is for secondary crashes.*

Roadway incidents are high-risk situations for all responders and motorists. Responders and motorists are killed and injured each year as a result of inefficient traffic incident management. Nearly 20 percent of all firefighter and law enforcement deaths while in the line-of-duty are due to secondary crashes resulting from a previous incident. Twenty percent of incidents are secondary incidents that include rear-end and shoulder crashes. Secondary incidents are often more severe than the original incident. Roadway traffic incidents in Nebraska cause millions of dollars of delay annually which results in millions of dollars of lost productivity each year.

## Protect the Scene

Traffic incident response is only a small part of the many duties and responsibilities of Nebraska's 485 fire and rescue agencies. At the incident scene, the first responsibility of fire and Emergency Management Systems (EMS) is to protect the scene. Many different departments and agencies respond with a number of responsibilities during a highway incident. Responders should follow the Incident Command System (ICS). Roadway incidents can be complex and require the services of several disciplines, including NDOR, fire and rescue, Nebraska's emergency management agencies, towing and recovery operators, the county coroner, the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality (NDEQ) and others. *It is critical for responders to notify law enforcement and the NDOR*

## Unified Goal

The NDOR and other statewide transportation organizations have joined forces on the national level through the National Traffic Incident Management Coalition (NTIMC). The NTIMC has developed the National Unified Goal (NUG) for Traffic Incident Management. The Traffic Incident Management Unified Goal is:

- Responder safety
- Safe and quick clearance
- Prompt, reliable interoperable communications

The NDOR is committed to working with partners to promote, develop and sustain multi-disciplinary and multi-jurisdictional Traffic Incident Management (TIM) programs to achieve the Unified Goal.

Fire and EMS have traditionally handled traffic control differently. Some prefer to close all lanes of traffic.

*(see Responder on next page)*

## NDOR District Operations & Maintenance Managers

**District 1 (Lincoln):**  
Roger Kalkwarf, (402)471-0850, ext. 1041

**District 2 (Omaha):**  
Dale Butler, (402)595-2534, ext. 203

**District 3 (Norfolk):**  
Kevin Domogalla, (402)370-3470, ext. 106

**District 4 (Grand Island):**  
Allen Horak, (308)385-6265, ext. 204

**District 5 (Gering):**  
Chris Ford, (308)436-6587, ext. 5030

**District 6 (North Platte):**  
Roger Klasna, (308)535-8031

**District 7 (McCook):**  
Kelly Doyle, (308)345-8490, ext. 703

**District 8 (Ainsworth):**  
Corvin Hinrichs, (402)387-2471, ext. 202

## Responder *(cont'd. from page 5)*

While closing all lanes is needed for certain incidents, it greatly increases the likelihood of secondary crashes. Restoring partial traffic flow as soon as possible provides a safer work environment for all responders. It is advised that at least a single lane of traffic be restored or traffic be directed to pass cautiously on the shoulder. Traffic should be slowly flagged past the incident to provide responders with safe working conditions.

Incident reports have shown there are inconsistent practices in crashes involving hazardous materials. Agencies with little hazardous materials experience are more likely to demand an immediate shutdown of all travel lanes. The threshold for reportable quantities of hazardous materials in Nebraska is 25 gallons or its reportable quantity. Notification

should be made to the NDEQ, by telephone (402)471-2186 during normal office hours. After hours reports should be made to the Nebraska State Patrol (NSP).

### Improved Safety

The department recognizes the importance of working closely with Nebraska's 485 fire departments to improve the safety of all responders during highway incidents. District Operations and Maintenance Managers (DOMMs) are the points-of-contact in an area.

Each of NDOR's eight districts has 24/7 response capabilities that are managed by the DOMMs. Every district has a District Operations Center (DOC) that has been placed into service to improve the department's incident response and recovery services. The Omaha District 2 Operations Center is available 24/7, is co-located with the NSP

Troop "A" Dispatch Center and can operate message boards across the entire 459-mile I-80 corridor.

During the past decade, NDOR has installed 47 interstate highway message boards and deployed the statewide 511 highway information number to support improved traffic management and incident response needs. The department also has portable electronic message boards and approved Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) assets that can be deployed during highway incidents. NDOR district officials are available to discuss some of the strategies, including Temporary Traffic Control (TTC); Incident Command Structure (ICS); Emergency Lighting Discipline; Towing and Recovery; and enhanced communications that transportation agencies nationwide are implementing to improve public and responder safety during highway incidents. ♦

# Columbus Viaduct Features Unique Tied-Arch Design

Work on the new U.S. Highway 81/30, 33rd Avenue viaduct at the south edge of Columbus began in February of this year and major work was completed in November. A few remaining items will be completed next spring.

The bridge has two spans with a modified tied-arch design for the main span and a conventional steel girder design for the second span. The tied-arch is a unique design first used for the Ravenna viaduct five years ago. The Columbus viaduct and the Ravenna viaduct are the only two bridges in the world using this unique design.

The concept for the modified tied-arch design was suggested by Dr. Maher Tadros, at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and developed by the NDOR Bridge Division.

*(see Viaduct on next page)*



*Photo by Jay Bailey*

The U.S. Highway 81/30, 33rd Avenue viaduct in Columbus, over the Union Pacific rail yard, is a steel tied-arch bridge, the second of its kind in the world.



## Viaduct *(cont'd. from page 6)*

Dr. Tadros' research team at UNL tested various elements of the tied-arch system as the design progressed to verify the validity of the design.

The Columbus viaduct has three arches: two at the outside edges of the bridge and one in the median. Each arch is made up of a pair of steel pipes filled with high strength Self Consolidating Concrete (SCC). The tie-beam (the bottom chord of the tied arch) is a steel box beam filled with SCC concrete, and two ducts containing multiple post-tensioned steel strands. High strength steel rods, 1¾ inches in diameter, connect the arches to the tie beams which support the bridge deck.

The original plan was to reconstruct the piers and replace the superstructure of the existing bridge. However, the horizontal clearance between the tracks and two of the piers was less than 10 feet, so the decision was made to build a new structure that would span most of the tracks. Additional right-of-way needed to be purchased for the new structure.

It became necessary to do some emergency repairs to the existing bridge in order to keep it open until the new bridge could be designed. The old bridge also served as a work platform during construction of the new bridge.

### New Viaduct

During construction, through traffic on Highway 81 and Highway 30 was detoured around Columbus, but provision was made for traffic coming into town. Many meetings were held to keep people informed of the project's progress. The new viaduct was completed well within the allotted time.

During construction of the new viaduct, the workers found several interesting items. They located a portion of a wagon wheel hub while excavating a drilled shaft. They also located the burnt remains of an old Safeway grocery store that had burned down much earlier.

Cramer and Associates, of Des Moines Iowa, was the prime contractor for this \$12,941,875 project. Fred Bock, with E&A Consulting, designed the phasing for bridge removal, drainage and construction plans. NDOR's Bridge Division designed the project. The design team included Dan Sharp, Lynden VanderVeen, Scott Milliken, Vince Koenig (retired), Mark Fischer, Dennis Vodicka, Todd Holt, Ron Schreiner, Randy Pospisil, and Janice Hueske. Kristi Van Ooyen, Construction Division, was a resource for facilitating construction or bridge-related issues. David Anderson was the project manager, and his District 3 crew included Danny Bock, Jim Carney, Monty Koch, Gary R. Schmid and Luke Kjolhaug.



*Photo by Dave Anderson, District 3*

**Before:** The old viaduct served as a work platform during construction of the new bridge. Here, traffic is headed north on the old Columbus viaduct.



*Photo by Jay Bailey*

**After:** Three arches, two at the outside edges of the bridge and one in the median, are visible looking north on the Columbus viaduct.

Right-of-way appraisal work was done by Greg Weinert, and the appraisal review by Tim Mullin. Negotiations were done by Anne Christensen, Joy Robinson, Leslie Muehlich and Tom Manning. The Right-of-Way project managers were John Rownd (retired) and Joey Kramer. Right-of-Way designer was Jeff Walter. ♦

# Governor Recognizes Employees and Managers of the Year

Ten NDOR employees were recognized by Governor Dave Heineman for their accomplishments as Employee of the Year and Supervisor/Manager of the Year. They joined outstanding state employees from other state agencies during recognition ceremonies held on November 2 at the State Capitol Rotunda.

Those receiving Employee of the Year awards: **Becky Fleming**, Federal Aid Administrator III-Controller; **James Hanson**, Auto/Diesel Mechanic-D4; **Don Hull**, Highway District ROW Permits Officer-D5; **Kent Priest**, Highway Maintenance Worker, Sr.-D6; and **Todd Wythers**, Highway Maintenance Worker Sr.-D4,

Those receiving Manager of the Year awards: **Scott Gripenstroh**, Highway Project Manager-D4; **Lyle Kohmetscher**, Highway Project Manager-D4; **Tim Krason**, Highway Quality Assurance Manager-Materials & Research; **Lois Schmidt**, Personnel Manager II, Human Resources; and **Robert Wiebelhaus**, Highway Project Manager-D3.

Each year, agencies select one non-management/nonsupervisory employee per 500 from their agency and one supervisor or manager per 500 from their agency whose job performance has exceeded the highest standards and contributed to the overall effectiveness of their agency. Congratulations to these outstanding NDOR employees. ♦



**Becky Fleming**



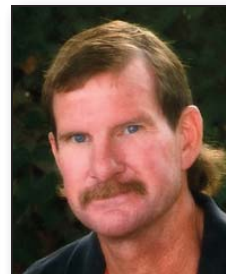
**James Hanson**



**Don Hull**



**Kent Priest**



**Todd Wythers**



**Scott Gripenstroh**



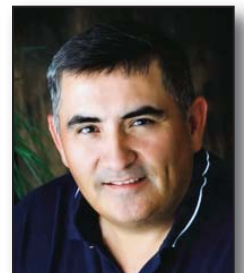
**Lyle Kohmetscher**



**Tim Krason**



**Lois Schmidt**



**Robert Wiebelhaus**

## Leadership Development Certificates Awarded

**By Jacki Schrotberger**  
Human Resources

Congratulations to the following employees for their accomplishments in the NDOR Leadership Certificate Development Program!

### Manager Readiness

Martin Gillen, District 5  
Wahed Hassani, Roadway Design  
Jill Kuhel, Planning & Proj. Dev.  
Cooper Minto, BTSD  
Sean Schulz, Planning & Proj. Dev.

Darryl Steinwart, District 5  
Shad Thompson, District 8  
Steve White, Traffic Engineering  
Carol Wienhold, Plan. & Proj. Dev.  
Brad Zumwalt, Plan. & Proj. Dev.

### Manager Effectiveness

Larry Ferguson, District 6  
Jill Kuhel, Plan. & Proj. Dev.  
Denice Sears, Human Resources

These employees have completed seven required trainings, three elective trainings as well as a

mentoring relationship in order to complete their certificates.

We commend each of them for their dedication and hard work. They deserve to be proud of their achievement(s) and we wish them the best as they embark on their next exciting adventure.

For more information on the Leadership Development Program, please contact HR Workforce Development or visit our [webpage](#) on the NDOR Intranet. ♦





# Do You Have Diabetes?

By Carol Marshall, RN



An estimated 23 million Americans have diabetes, a disease characterized by too much sugar in the bloodstream. More than 5 million of them, however, have not yet been diagnosed with the disease.

Diabetes occurs when the pancreas, a gland behind the stomach, does not produce enough of the hormone insulin. Insulin is necessary to carry sugar from the bloodstream into the cells. Once inside the cells, sugar is converted into energy for immediate use or stored for the future. That energy fuels all our bodily functions and rids the body of waste products. This process is known as metabolism.

## Metabolism Process

*Here is what normally happens during metabolism:*

1. During and just after a meal, the body digests food into its "basic building blocks." In this way, the body breaks down carbohydrates (starches) into sugar. Glucose is the primary form of sugar the body needs for energy.
2. After the meal, glucose is absorbed into the blood.
3. The rise in blood glucose tells the pancreas to make insulin, which goes out into the bloodstream. About 10 minutes after a meal, insulin is at its highest level.
4. Insulin helps the glucose enter the body's cells. The glucose either is used right away for energy or stored in the liver and muscles for future use.
5. About two to four hours after eating a meal, the body returns to low levels of blood glucose and starts using stored glucose for energy.

*Here is what happens if a person has diabetes:*

1. The pancreas is unable to produce enough insulin or the body is resistant to the action of insulin.
2. Without enough insulin to move sugar from the bloodstream into the cells, the blood glucose level rises too high.
3. As blood glucose rises, extra glucose passes into the urine and out of the body before the body gets the energy it needs every day.
4. The body reacts to a prolonged sugar imbalance and, eventually, the person may develop major health problems. This is why it is important to get tested for diabetes and begin treatment as soon as possible.

## Two Types

There are two types of diabetes: type 1 and type 2. Type 1 diabetes is usually diagnosed in children and young adults, and was previously known as juvenile diabetes. Type 1 diabetics do not produce insulin. Only 5 to 10 percent of people with diabetes have this form. With insulin therapy and other therapies, a type 1 diabetic can live a long and healthy life.

Type 2 diabetes is the most common form affecting 90 to 95 percent of people with diabetes. In type 2 diabetes, the body is resistant to the action of insulin, meaning it cannot use insulin properly, so it cannot carry sugar into the cells. Although the body makes some insulin, it is not enough to overcome this resistance. In the past, this was referred to as "adult onset" diabetes as it was more common in adults. However, with the increase in childhood obesity, type 2 diabetes is being seen in more children than ever before.

People with type 2 diabetes often can control the condition with a healthy lifestyle, which includes exercise and diet that lead to a return to normal body weight. Many may need oral medications, however. These medications can either improve insulin secretion by the pancreas or decrease insulin resistance. Some individuals may also need to take insulin injections.

## Diabetes Symptoms

In type 2 diabetes, the ability of the pancreas to make insulin slowly gets worse. This is why lifestyle changes may be sufficient shortly after diabetes develops, but eventually medications and even insulin may be needed to keep blood sugar under control. If the disease is in the early stage, an individual may not experience any symptoms. Symptoms of diabetes include fatigue, weight loss, blurred vision, excessive thirst, and excessive urination, numbness or tingling of hands or feet.

Diabetes is more likely to develop if you are overweight, have a family history of diabetes, or have had diabetes during pregnancy. Diabetes during pregnancy is called gestational diabetes and your doctor should do tests to monitor your blood sugars during pregnancy.

Uncontrolled diabetes can cause blindness, heart disease, kidney failure and decreased circulation to limbs that can lead to amputation. Signs of diabetes should not be ignored! Your doctor can do a simple blood test to determine if you may have diabetes. Endocrinologists and internal medicine physicians who specialize in diabetes are trained to help patients manage this condition. Only with proper attention can people with diabetes live the healthiest life possible.

# WELLNESS

## Meet some faces of Diabetes at NDOR...



**CLAY DUNCAN**  
Type 1 Diabetes

*Results when the pancreas produces little or no insulin. It is estimated that 5-10 percent of Americans who are diagnosed with diabetes have type 1 diabetes.*

Clay was diagnosed as a type 1 diabetic at the age of seven. His symptoms were weakness, thirst and frequent urination. He was hospitalized for one week so that he and his parents could have the proper training for diabetic control.

Clay took insulin injections for 21 years and has used an insulin pump for the past six years. He is constantly aware of his diet through carb counting and avoids sugar as much as possible.

Clay feels he can do anything a non-diabetic can, and will not let this disease prevent him from living a productive life.



**LINDA "ZIP" MASEK**  
Type 2 Diabetes

*Results from insulin resistance (a condition in which the body fails to properly use insulin), combined with relative insulin deficiency. Most Americans who are diagnosed with diabetes have type 2 diabetes.*

Linda was diagnosed as a type 2 diabetic in May at her annual physical. Although she was considered marginal last year, she refused to admit being pre-diabetic as she experienced no adverse symptoms.

Linda was placed on medication twice a day. Her new diet was decreasing carbs, and increasing fruits and vegetables. She also began walking 3 miles a day. Within a few months, she reduced her medication in half and lost 26 pounds.

Linda remains adamant to get healthy, stay healthy and live life to its fullest with her family and friends.



**TASHA DAHLBERG**  
Gestational Diabetes

*May occur when a woman is pregnant. It raises her risk of getting another type of diabetes, mostly type 2, for the rest of her life. It also raises her child's risk of being overweight and getting diabetes.*

Tasha was diagnosed with gestational diabetes within six weeks of her third pregnancy. She was lethargic, dizzy, shaky and experiencing confused thoughts. She assumed this was due to a thyroid problem since there is a family history.

After her diagnosis, she was determined to get her diabetes under control. She started on a strict eating plan consisting of a focused amount of carbs at meal and snack times, and takes an insulin injection at night. The effects have diminished and she feels healthier.

Tasha's doctors are hopeful that her gestational diabetes will go away after her baby is born.

To learn more about diabetes go to [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org) or [www.jdrf.org](http://www.jdrf.org)





## We Get Mail...



November 3, 2009

Dear Mr. Wahlgren,

We would like to compliment Scott Grienpenstroh as project manager of the Second Street improvement in Grand Island, Nebraska.

Scott was very pleasant to work with, being kind and courteous at all times. He was very patient, despite the many phone calls at a time when the pressure of a deadline was near. He kept us well informed about which streets would be closed and kept us updated on the progress of the project.

We are very pleased with the landscaping of our corner on Second and Lincoln, which Scott planned and completed for us. It is well designed and added beauty to the corner, which we could not have done.

We felt Scott did an outstanding job on this project and felt it was important to let you know what a valuable employee you have.

Sincerely,

Louise Zimmerman, President  
Grand Island Woman's Executive Board

**Editor's Note:** Scott is project manager at District 4 in Grand Island.

**The Department of Roads receives numerous complimentary letters. The letters printed here are representative of those often sent praising the many fine and deserving employees of the Department of Roads.**



October 26, 2009

Dear Mr. Wahlgren,

My family would like to offer our sincere appreciation for the assistance one of your road crews provided us on October 10th. I was traveling northbound on Highway 281 just north of the I-80 exit when we experienced a tire blow-out. We were on our way to a wedding. This crew stopped and provided us assistance in changing the tire. Their assistance got us back on the road quickly and kept us from getting dirty. Please express our gratitude to this crew. We have made a donation to Central Community College in your department's name.

Again thank your crew for their assistance and the great work your department does every day to keep our roadways safe and the road system infrastructure repaired.

Respectfully,

Marty Stange  
Juniata, Nebraska

**Editor's Note:** Employees who offered this assistance are Ruban Adams and Brian Davis, both Hwy. Maintenance Workers at District 4 in Grand Island.



October 5, 2009

Dear Mary Neben,

I want to thank you for all the help you have given me to make the U.S. 34 spring marker a reality. Our grant request was approved. I will send you pictures and newspaper articles when the project is completed.

I have enjoyed getting to know you and appreciate your dedication, expertise and research.

Most sincerely,

Marilyn Jean Hendrickson  
Benkelman, Nebraska

**Editor's Note:** Mary Neben is the Transportation Resource Librarian in Communication Division.

# NDOR Highway Improvement Projects Currently Under Contract

Information from Trans•port SiteManager as of November 18, 2009

**Location**  
**Work Description**  
**Prime Contractor**  
**Project Manager**  
**Contract Bid Amount**

Key:  
Aggregate - Agg  
Bituminous - Bit  
Bridge - Br  
Building - Bldg  
Concrete Pavement - ConPav  
Culverts - Culv  
Electrical - Elec  
Grading - Gr  
Guardrail - Gdrl  
Landscaping - LS  
Mechanically Stabilized Earth - MSE  
Seeding - Seed  
Speciality - Spec



## District 1

Beatrice West (Stimulus)  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Endorf, Dennis (402)729-3489  
\$3,240,349.71

Fairbury South Bridges (Stimulus)  
Gr, ConPav, Br, Gdrl  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489  
\$2,879,777.92

Blue River Br. South of Fairbury  
Br, Gdrl  
The Diamond Engineering Co.  
Vandegrift, Allen (402)729-3489  
\$485,666.81

Salem West  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
U.S. Asphalt Co.  
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131  
\$2,697,286.64

Nemaha South  
Bit  
Constructors, Inc.  
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131  
\$1,308,999.92

Falls City - Rulo  
Bit  
Constructors, Inc.  
Hitzeman, Don (402)335-4131  
\$1,897,130.16

Fremont South  
Bit  
U.S. Asphalt Co.  
Sidiqi, Abdul (402)471-0850  
\$1,721,187.65

US-77 - 9th St., Lincoln  
Gr, ConPav, Seed, Br, Gdrl  
TCW Construction, Inc.  
Knutson, Dewaine (402)471-0850  
\$1,516,528.70

N. Jct. N-99 East  
Bit  
Constructors, Inc.  
Cary, Bill (402)335-4131  
\$743,931.70

Tecumseh East  
Bit  
Constructors, Inc.  
Cary, Bill (402)335-4131  
\$3,360,615.16

Pickrell - Cortland  
Bit  
Pavers Companies  
Cary, Bill (402)335-4131  
\$2,392,258.25

Syracuse North (Stimulus)  
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
U.S. Asphalt Co.  
Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131  
\$4,777,516.52

Nebraska City North  
Spec  
Park Construction Co.  
Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131  
\$199,658.50

Nebraska City Scale Building  
Scale Bldg  
Hampton Commercial Const., Inc.  
Habegger, Michael (402)335-4131  
\$246,596.00

I-180 - 56th St., Lincoln  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
Br, Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
Dobson Bros. Const. Co.  
& United Contractors Inc. (JV)  
Sanburn, Bob (402)471-0850  
\$48,766,667.84

Greenwood - Mahoney  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
England, Jim (402)471-0850  
\$35,868,389.45

262nd St. Bridge  
Gr, MSE, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850  
\$2,567,442.87

Air Park - I-180, Lincoln (Stimulus)  
Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Pavers Companies  
Preble, Rodger (402)471-0850  
\$1,989,950.28

Elmwood North & South  
Culv, Bit  
Constructors, Inc.  
Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850  
\$678,574.13

US-34/148th St. East of Lincoln  
Gr, Culv, Elec, Bit  
Pavers Companies  
Traudt, Bob (402)471-0850  
\$938,982.97

I-80, Goehner Truck Parking  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Fence, Elec  
Constructors, Inc.  
Hobelman, Ryan (402)471-0850  
\$605,573.94

84th St. - N-43  
Spec  
Sealcoat Services, Inc.  
dba SCS Construction Co.  
Townsend, Devin (402)471-0850  
\$367,552.15

56th St. - 84th St., Lincoln  
Spec  
Park Construction Co.  
Townsend, Devin (402)471-0850  
\$102,486.60

Jct. US-77/N-109  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec  
Constructors, Inc.  
Mueting, Curt (402)370-3474  
\$2,818,151.82

Wahoo - Fremont  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit  
U.S. Asphalt Co.  
Mueting, Curt (402)370-3474  
\$4,358,053.17

134th St. Bridge, Lincoln  
Gr, MSE, Culv, Br, Gdrl  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850  
\$1,762,277.47

East Jct. N-92 North  
Gdrl, Bit  
Constructors, Inc.  
Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850  
\$2,574,601.70

Prague - Dodge Co. Line  
Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Kuehn, Joseph (402)471-0850  
\$4,594,218.98

Bennet North  
Bit  
Constructors, Inc.  
Volz, Jason (308)345-8490  
\$267,574.00

148th St./N-2, Lincoln  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Elec  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Volz, Jason (308)345-8490  
\$1,825,583.23

## District 2



I-480 WB/US-75 SB Intchg.  
(Stimulus)  
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Culv, Br,  
Gdrl, Fence, Elec, Sign  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Baehr, Dennis (402)595-2534  
\$19,175,728.47

108th St. - 120th St., Omaha  
LS  
Lanoha Nurseries, Inc.  
Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534  
\$468,974.00

US-275 East  
Spec  
M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc.  
Farivari, Mo (402)595-2534  
\$905,749.20

Missouri River Bridges, Omaha  
Br  
Cramer & Associates, Inc.  
Trujillo, Ray (402)727-3292  
\$123,851.00

Missouri River - 13th St., Omaha  
(Stimulus)  
Gr, Soil, ConPav, Culv, LS,  
Fence, Elec, Sign, Paint  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Fisher, Rick (402)595-2534  
\$16,068,401.72

North Bend - Snyder  
Seed, Gdrl, Bit  
U.S. Asphalt Co.  
Jacobs, Micky (402)727-3292  
\$6,114,907.24

Melia Hill Maintenance Facility  
Maint Facility  
Upland Construction Co  
Kuehner, Chris (402)595-2534  
\$2,450,000.00

S. Omaha Br., Main Br. Truss  
Br  
Jensen Construction Co.  
Zelensky, Rich (402)595-2534  
\$37,574,397.00

S. Omaha Br., Iowa Br. Approach  
Br, Elec  
Commercial Construction, Inc.  
Zelensky, Rich (402)595-2534  
\$13,204,975.78

S. Omaha Br., Iowa Grading  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Fence, Elec, Bit  
K & L Landscape & Constr., Inc.  
Tsvi, Aleksandra (402)595-2534  
\$3,499,546.34

S. Omaha Br., Iowa Hwy. Paving  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec  
MFT Construction, Inc.  
Tsvi, Aleksandra (402)595-2534  
\$2,629,468.91

S. Omaha Br., Nebr. -  
13th & Mo. Ave.  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, LS, Elec  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Hinchey, Maurice (402)595-2534  
\$5,262,446.49

S. Omaha Br., Nebr. Br. Approach  
Gr, Br, Gdrl, Elec  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Hinchey, Maurice (402)595-2534  
\$12,773,897.12

## District 3



Lindsay South  
Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Robertson, Ramsy (402)421-1717  
\$4,232,071.59

N-35 North, Wayne  
Spec  
Sealcoat Services, Inc.  
dba SCS Construction Co.  
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071  
\$205,448.75

Hubbard North & South (Stimulus)  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Gdrl  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071  
\$1,887,751.88

Winnebago East  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec  
M.E. Collins Contracting Co., Inc.  
Francis, Jeff (402)375-7071  
\$3,254,303.67

In South Sioux City  
Elec  
Mid-Plains Power, Inc.  
Mainquist, Bill (402)370-3470  
\$101,290.28



Jct. N-12/S14H & Jct. N-12/N-57  
Elec  
Integrated Electrical Services, Inc.  
dba Kayton Electric  
Mainquist, Bill (402)370-3470  
\$60,933.00

Monowi - Verdel  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Becker, Roger (402)254-6552  
\$2,257,733.09

Columbus Viaduct  
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Culv, Br, Elec  
Cramer & Associates, Inc.  
Anderson, David (402)564-5751  
\$12,941,875.76

Madison East Bridges (Stimulus)  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Hawkins Construction Co.  
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751  
\$3,537,088.30

Columbus South Bridges  
ConPav, Br  
Cramer & Associates, Inc.  
Trosper, Steven (402)564-5751  
\$884,368.50

Yankton Bridge  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br,  
Fence, Gdrl, Elec, Sign  
Jensen Construction Co.  
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552  
\$23,903,498.78

Concord Southwest (Stimulus)  
Gr, Culv, Bit  
A & R Construction Co.  
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552  
\$361,799.75

E. Jct. US-20 - N-12  
Spec  
Martin Resource Mgmt. Corp.  
dba Monarch Oil  
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552  
\$439,813.59

Lyons North  
Spec  
Martin Resource Mgmt. Corp.  
dba Monarch Oil  
Wiebelhaus, Bob (402)254-6552  
\$584,731.63

Monroe Ave., Norfolk  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec  
A & R Construction Co.  
Samuelson, Matthew (402)370-3470  
\$683,743.43

Norfolk West  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
Br, Gdrl, Elec  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Schulz, Ron (402)370-3474  
\$20,299,017.48

In Norfolk  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Lollman, Doug (402)370-3474  
\$2,521,640.64

## District 4

Hastings West (Stimulus)  
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
Vontz Paving, Inc.  
Kohmetscher, Lyle (402)462-1996  
\$3,599,832.60



In Kearney (Stimulus)  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434  
\$2,251,125.35

Odessa - Kearney (WB)  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
Gdrl, Fence, Elec  
Knife River Midwest, Llc  
Farber, Tom (308)865-5434  
\$11,320,248.97

Charleston Link  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed, Br, Gdrl  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934  
\$3,715,517.77

Charleston Link Interchange  
Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Commercial Construction, Inc.  
Grooms, Jerry (402)362-5934  
\$849,859.29

N-74 - Shelby (5 Segments)  
Spec  
Sealcoat Services, Inc.  
dba SCS Construction Co.  
Anderson, Tom (402)362-5934  
\$382,264.00

Grand Island South (Stimulus)  
Gr, Seed, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
The Diamond Engineering Co.  
Nordhues, Bob (308)385-6265  
\$6,329,248.36

Aurora - Central City  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Weber, Kirk (308)385-6888  
\$8,584,360.49

Ord - Burwell  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Elec, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888  
\$8,121,354.49

Middle Loup Br., Arcadia (Stimulus)  
Gr, Br, Gdrl  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888  
\$1,667,006.59

US-281, Via. Approach, Grand Island  
Gr, ConPav, Br  
The Diamond Engineering Co.  
Woodgate, Gerald (308)385-6888  
\$432,215.12

Grant St. - Greenwich St., Grand Island  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Elec  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6888  
\$4,495,070.38

Wood River - Grand Island (Stimulus)  
Gdrl, Bit  
Vontz Paving, Inc.  
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6888  
\$5,145,542.96

Minden - Wood River  
Spec  
Interstate Sealant & Concrete, Inc.  
Gripenstroh, Scott (308)385-6888  
\$259,000.14

Shelton Interchange  
Spec  
Ensley Electrical Services, Inc.  
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888  
\$376,575.00

Pleasanton South (Stimulus)  
Bit  
Vontz Paving, Inc.  
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888  
\$1,300,914.34

Platte River Br., South of Kearney  
Br  
Herbst Construction, Inc.  
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888  
\$299,177.00

Wood River Interchange  
Br  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Schmidt, Larry (308)385-6888  
\$78,895.53

Edgar Spur (Stimulus)  
Gr, Culv, Elec, Bit  
Vontz Paving, Inc.  
Meyer, Steve (402)462-1996  
\$1,735,839.29



## District 5

Chappell - Oshkosh (Stimulus)  
Bit  
Western Engineering Co., Inc.  
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929  
\$6,773,436.78

Broadwater South Bridges  
Br  
Reiman Corp.  
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929  
\$64,400.30

Sidney East Viaduct  
ConPav, Br  
Perrett Construction, Ltd.  
Frickey, Russ (308)262-1929  
\$758,352.76

L-7E North (Stimulus)  
Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144  
\$3,082,922.60

Whitney Spur Bridge  
Br  
Reiman Corp.  
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144  
\$147,011.40

Chadron South Bridges  
Br  
Fuller Construction Co., Inc.  
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144  
\$192,828.61

Alliance North (South Half)  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit  
Werner Construction Co.  
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144  
\$3,123,145.03

Alliance North (North Half)  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Bit  
Werner Construction Co.  
Carnahan, Brian (308)432-6144  
\$3,382,327.18

Scottsbluff Northwest Viaduct  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Seed,  
Br, Gdrl, Elec  
Perrett Construction, Ltd.  
Rhamy, Wayne (308)436-6587  
\$6,959,605.07

Wyoming Line East  
Culv  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Rhamy, Wayne (308)436-6587  
\$51,400.47

I-80 to North of Kimball  
Gr, MSE, Culv, Seed, Br  
Commercial Construction, Inc.  
Johnson, James (308)436-6587  
\$12,243,690.00

Nebr./Colo. Line North (Stimulus)  
Gr, Culv, Seed, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Jacobs, Maryanne (308)436-6587  
\$4,522,732.95

Dist. 5 - Districtwide  
Spec  
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.  
Jacobs, Maryanne (308)436-6587  
\$974,001.68

East Kimball - Potter (EB)  
Bit  
Werner Construction Co.  
Jacobs, Maryanne (308)436-6587  
\$2,974,263.00

Auto. Gate Closure Proj.-Rural  
Elec  
Mid-Plains Power, Inc.  
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033  
\$184,787.45



## District 6

Buffalo Bill Ave. Extension  
Gr, Br, Culv  
Commercial Construction, Inc.  
Stark, Thad (308)535-6724  
\$12,081,916.94

Lewellen - Ogallala  
Gr, Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033  
\$2,756,126.59

Ogallala West  
Gr, Seed, Elec, Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033  
\$3,086,661.01

Ogallala South  
Bit  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033  
\$1,517,350.69

State Farm Rd. North, North Platte  
Gr, ConPav, Culv, Br, Elec  
Cement Products, Inc.  
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033  
\$3,576,209.38

Maxwell Interchange (Stimulus)  
Gr, ConPav, Br, Gdrl, Elec  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Morrell, Richard (308)535-8033  
\$1,277,231.22

Wallace Maintenance Facility  
Maint Facility  
Wayne Dowhower Constr., Inc.  
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033  
\$1,169,000.00

Thedford Viaduct (Stimulus)  
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Culv, Br,  
Gdrl, Elec  
Ames Construction, Inc.  
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033  
\$6,954,805.22

Thedford South  
Gr, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033  
\$4,627,371.44

North Platte West (Stimulus)  
Spec  
Iowa Erosion Control, Inc.  
Thomsen, Toby (308)535-8033  
\$1,692,944.57

Darr Interchange (Stimulus)  
Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033  
\$1,039,544.87

Cozad Interchange  
Gr, MSE, ConPav, Br, Gdrl, Elec  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033  
\$4,595,440.50

Paxton Link  
Br, Gdrl, Bit  
Simon Contractors & Subsidiaries  
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033  
\$2,349,619.99

Monroe St. to I-80, Cozad  
Gr, ConPav, Culv  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033  
\$486,731.45

Cozad South  
Gr, Seed, Gdrl, Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033  
\$386,734.99

Lexington - Overton (Stimulus)  
Seed, Gdrl, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Brinker, Gary (308)535-8033  
\$6,491,623.68

Broken Bow East  
Seed, Gdrl, Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Lewandowski, Daniel (308)535-8031  
\$4,595,759.73

## District 7

Loomis - Holdrege (Stimulus)  
Gr, Culv, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
Werner Construction, Inc.  
Kuhn, Kenton (308)995-5397  
\$2,518,943.51

Kansas Line - N-89  
Spec  
Martin Resource Mgmt. Corp.  
dba Monarch Oil  
Ziebell, Roger (308)345-8490  
\$493,285.46

Holdrege - Funk  
Bit  
Paulsen, Inc.  
Dietz, Mark (308)995-5397  
\$2,298,753.76

## District 8

Ainsworth East  
Bit  
Western Engineering Co., Inc.  
Rudnick, Michael (402)387-2471  
\$2,142,502.20

Chambers Jct. North  
Gr, Culv, Br, Gdrl, Elec, Bit  
Knife River Midwest, LLC  
Ziska, Dan (402)336-2051  
\$6,898,555.05



# Snapshot from History



Photo from NDOR archives  
Research by Arvid Olson, Communication

This 1920 photo shows prison laborers assisting with work in Johnson County along Highway 136. Road construction project #43-A extended from Tecumseh to Crab Orchard, a distance of 14 miles, and required 115,700 cubic yards of excavation.

Prison labor for road improvement in Nebraska was first used in 1915 to pave the roads on the south and east side of the State Agricultural School in Lincoln. In 1920, prison labor was used a second time to construct state highways in Seward, Johnson and Pawnee counties. Because of high prices received on earth excavation, it was decided to use prison labor and surplus World War I

equipment to lower costs. The prisoners were carefully selected for the construction camps, the majority with minor offenses. Civilian laborers worked alongside prison laborers. The prisoners were primarily used to handle the horse teams and skilled work was mainly done by civilians.

For more information about prison labor, including equipment, wages and camp conditions, and to see additional photos go to [www.transportation.nebraska.gov/roadrunner/add-docs/prison-labor/prison-labor.pdf](http://www.transportation.nebraska.gov/roadrunner/add-docs/prison-labor/prison-labor.pdf). For general NDOR history visit NDOR's history pages at [www.transportation.nebraska.gov/history/](http://www.transportation.nebraska.gov/history/)





# All <sup>in</sup> the Family

**Information for "All in the Family" should be sent to the Communication Division. Appropriate information will be included in future Roadrunners.**

**Please note:** Birth announcements will be published as long as written permission is received by the Communication Division. This is necessary, as NDOR is required to adhere to privacy laws under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

## Births

Congratulations to Jan and Duane Collins on the birth of their third grandchild, Marcus David, born September 17. Jan is Administrative Assistant and Duane is Project Manager at District 7 in McCook.

Congratulations to Todd and Leslie Muehlich on the birth of their granddaughter, Mylee Ann, born November 19. Todd is a Project Manager and Leslie is a ROW Agent, both in Right-of-Way.

Steve and Bobbi Olson are the proud grandparents of their first grandson, Gideon Everett, born November 10. Steve is an ITS Project Coordinator in Operations and Bobbi is a Federal Aid Administrator in Traffic Engineering.

Congratulations to Ron and Marilyn Bohling on the birth of their second granddaughter, Sarah Amelia, born November 16. Ron is a Materials & Tests Manager in Materials & Research.

Congratulations to Bob and Mary Neben on the birth of their fifth grandchild, Brynna Mae, born November 20. Mary is the Transportation Resource Librarian in Communication.

Congratulations to Casey and Ila Kendall on the birth of their fifth grandchild, Brayden Alexander, born October 13. Ila is a Hwy. Materials & Tests Technician at the North Platte Lab, under Materials & Research.

Congratulations to Myron and Marlene Petr on the birth of their grandson, Dylan Thomas, born October 28. Myron is the Hwy. Maintenance Superintendent at District 4 in Hastings.

## Condolences

Sympathy to Deb Thompson and family on the loss of Deb's father. Deb is an Office Clerk III in Highway Safety Section, Traffic Engineering.

Sympathy to Teri and Marv Chauza on the death of Teri's father-in-law. Teri is an Office Clerk III in Highway Safety Section, Traffic Engineering.

Condolences to Craig and Kate Anderson on the death of Craig's mother. Craig is a Hwy. Project Scheduler/Programmer Analyst in Program Management and Kate is a Hwy. Cartographer Sr. in Business Technology Support.

Condolences to Nadine and Dan VonSeggern on the death of Nadine's father-in-law. Nadine is a Statistical Clerk II in Highway Safety Section, Traffic Engineering.

Condolences to Rex and Linda Wilson on the death of Rex's grandmother. Rex is a Hwy. Utilities Coordinator II in Planning & Project Development and Linda is a Public Information Officer II in Communication.

## Weddings

Congratulations to Jay and Mary Bailey on the marriage of their son, Jason, to Melissa Clough on September 26. Jay is the Photographer Chief in Communication.

Congratulations to Marve and Pam Schmitz on the marriage of their daughter, Lezley, to Jess Koube on September 26. Pam is a Construction Tech II at District 8 in Ainsworth.

## This 'n That

Wyconda Walstrom, daughter of Mike Mattison, was inducted into the National Honor Society at Lincoln Southwest High School. Wyconda is also a semi-finalist for the National Merit Scholarship. Mike is the Maintenance Engineer in Operations.

Chuck Hoster and his bridge partner, Mary Pat Miller, qualified for the North American National Pairs in Reno, Nevada next spring. They finished second in the regional qualification tournament which involved four sessions of play over two days. Chuck is the State Property Damage Coordinator in Traffic Engineering.

Congratulations to Megan Kelley on her graduation from Mississippi State University with a Master's degree in Health Promotion. Megan worked at NDOR for several years in Communication and Traffic Engineering. She is the daughter of Ed and Wanda Kelley. Ed is a GIS Analyst/Cartography Supervisor in Business Technology Support.

Congratulations to Jeff Weander, Papillion LaVista High School senior, who set State Class A football records with 6826 passing/rushing yards, 6106 career passing yards, 415 pass completions and 194 pass completions in 2009. Jeff is the son of Marty Weander, Hwy. Project Manager, and Laurie Weander, Hwy. Traffic Operator, both at District 2 in Omaha.

Kelli Fisher, sophomore softball pitcher on the Yutan-Mead team, threw two back-to-back perfect games on October 15. Kelli struck out 17 batters in the first game and 11 in the second, with no other batters reaching base. Kelli is the daughter of Rick Fisher, Project Manager at District 2 in Omaha.

Jacob Friend competed in the All-American Soap Box Derby national competition, held in July at Akron, Ohio. He made it to the third round of eliminations, coming in 10th out of 140 in the stock division. To qualify for nationals, Jake, 10, won his division in his age group at the state competition. Jake is the son of Troy and Angie Friend. Troy is Hwy. Maintenance Worker Sr. at District 6 in North Platte.

U.S. Marine Justin Young received a meritorious promotion from sergeant to staff sergeant from U.S. Ambassador to Israel James B. Cunningham, members of the company and the embassy's regional security office. Young, who currently is attached to the State Department, serves as security detail for the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, Israel. He is the son of Larry and Kari Young. Larry is Hwy. Maintenance Crew Chief at District 6 in Ogallala.



## Service Awards

**Congratulations** to these dedicated individuals for their work and continued service with the Department of Roads. They celebrate their service dates in *December and January*.

### 40 Years

Keith Brinkhoff, Roadway Design  
Terry Gibson, Roadway Design  
Richard Morrell, District 6

### 30 Years

Carol Diedrichsen, District 3  
Edward Hayek Jr, Roadway Design  
Raymond Maxson, Operations

### 20 Years

Gregory Beck, District 7  
Steven Clyde, District 4  
Ricky Irwin, District 8  
Johnnie Reynolds, District 3  
Faramarz Tabatabai, Roadway Design

### 10 Years

Richard Billesbach, Right-of-Way  
Anthony Dirks, Local Projects  
Mark Fogue, Roadway Design  
Robert Jons, District 7  
Neil Kreikemeier, District 3  
Anthony Mattingly, Roadway Design  
Linda Piening, District 1  
Vernon Regier, District 4  
Julie Slechta, Traffic Engineering

# NDOR Events Calendar

## — December —

### National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention Month

- 1 New Employee Orientation Program**  
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")  
Contact DeWayne Morrow @ 476-3678
- 2 RoadToasters**  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 3 Letting**  
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact Kendall Stege @ 479-4528
- 17 Letting**  
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact Kendall Stege @ 479-4528
- 18 Hwy. Commission Meeting**  
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Greg Weinert @ 479-4871
- 21 RoadToasters – Holiday Meeting**  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 25 State Holiday – Christmas**

## — January —

- 1 State Holiday – New Year's Day**
- 12 New Employee Orientation Program**  
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")  
Contact DeWayne Morrow @ 476-3678
- 13 RoadToasters**  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 15 Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**  
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 18 State Holiday – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

- 22 Hwy. Commission Meeting**  
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Greg Weinert @ 479-4871
- 22 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**  
10:00 a.m., NDOR Materials & Research Conference Rm.  
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 27 RoadToasters**  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 28 Letting**  
1:30 p.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact Kendall Stege @ 479-4528

## — February —

- 9 New Employee Orientation Program**  
Rm. 152, 5001 S. 14th (the "Hill")  
Contact DeWayne Morrow @ 476-3678
- 10 RoadToasters**  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 14-20 National Engineers Week**  
[www.eweek.org](http://www.eweek.org)
- 15 State Holiday – Presidents' Day**
- 19 Bd. Public Roads Class & Stds.**  
9:00 a.m., NDOR Auditorium  
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 19 Bd. Examiners for Co. Hwy. & City Street Supts.**  
10:00 a.m., NDOR Materials & Research Conference Rm.  
Contact LeMoyne Schulz @ 479-4436
- 24 RoadToasters**  
12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Glenn Williams @ 479-3628
- 26 Hwy. Commission Meeting**  
10:00 a.m., Hwy. Commission Meeting Rm.  
Contact Greg Weinert @ 479-4871

If you would like a key event included on upcoming calendars, call the Communication Office 479-4512 or e-mail [linda.wilson@nebraska.gov](mailto:linda.wilson@nebraska.gov). Information for the February/March Roadrunner should be received by January 22, 2010.

